

CAMPING TODAY®



May 2019



COSMOSPHERE & SPACE MUSEUM AT KANSAS STATE FAIRGROUNDS

See the largest collection of Russian space artifacts outside of Moscow and a collection of U.S. space artifacts, second only to the National Air & Space Museum plus see more..... **Page 9**

Meet the new FCRV Chaplain, Bill Buggeln.....**Page 4**

Find out where the 2019 Travalong is headed.....**Page 12**



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All articles/information for Camping Today should be sent to
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FCRV Merchandise

Below is a link to a page for FCRV Merchandise with the new FCRV logo that
you can order online. Here is the link... <http://superiorembroidery.net/fcrv/shop/home>



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From the President - Shari Weber



Spring has sprung! (At least I keep telling myself that.) The snow birds are flocking north and RVs are being taken out of winter storage and prepared for camping season in the north. You are out there camping. Some of you are putting out signs and brochures and finding people interested in that group over there who seems to be having a lot of fun. A great job was done with RV shows this winter in recruiting new members. Another great method for getting new members is simply inviting someone to join in the fun.

New Executive Board member

Last month we sadly accepted Dennis James' resignation as our Chaplain. He needs to concentrate on getting healthy. We have found a new Chaplain. Bill Buggelin from Kansas has accepted this position. Please give him your support as you did Dennis. Pray for God's healing had to touch Dennis.

Blue Bayou

A great time was had by all who went to Houma and enjoyed the rally with the theme Blue Bayou. We enjoyed lots of Cajun food, pet and Mardi Gras parades and lots of games. Congratulations to Matt & Marla Mantia from Illinois the new Retiree King & Queen. Thanks to Dal & Barb Dodson and Tommy & Gail Nelson and their team for putting on a great rally.

Election

This year the candidates for the Trustee positions are all running unopposed. A few years ago the executive board decided that when all candidates are unopposed, ballots need not be mailed. Matt Mantia, our new Vice President Planning and Development, Jan Cushing staying on as Comptroller and Sue Fromholzer staying on as Vice President Operations. Please give these people your continued support. They will be installed at campvention during the General Membership meeting.

Logo

Logo merchandise is available through commercial members listed at fcrv.org. It is important that we support our vendors. Karen's Embroidery, Superior Embroidery and Marshall Creations have a variety of logo items that can be ordered and shipped directly to you.

There are name badges available through Karen's Embroidery and The Sign Man. Both are commercial vendors and contact information can be found at fcrv.org. We have also finally found a flag vendor who makes flags at a reasonable price. Please contact the national office if you are interested in purchasing a flag. Pat or Carl can be reached at 716.668.6242

All Roads Lead to Kansas

Hopefully your road will take you to Hutchinson, Kansas July 8 – 12! Ivalee & Earl Vanderhoff and Gerald Pfirsch and a very hardworking team have put together a great week of fun and fellowship for us. See articles in other sections of this "Camping Today" for more information. I hope to see you there.

Until the next campfire,

Shari

CORRECTIONS TO APRIL CAMPING TODAY

Retiree Rally – Red hat Luncheon Hosted by Dianne Buggein, Co-host, Diane Hitchens did most of the table decorations and both planned the menu and program.

Mardi Gras Costume Contest – 1st place Steve & Diane Hitchens, 2nd Paul Wallinger, 3rd Marla Mantia.

NEW FCRV CHAPLAIN



Fellow Campers,

My name is Bill Buggeln and at the request of the Board, I will take some time to introduce myself and family to you. Recently the Board chose me to be the new Chaplain for FCRV. Let me first say thank you to Dennis James for faithfully fulfilling the roll of Chaplain for the last couple of years. Due to health issues Dennis has offered his resignation, and our thoughts and prayers with him and his family through these struggles. May God continue to bless and keep you.

Now to spend some time to introduce myself and my family. I was born with the big name of Charles William Buggeln Jr, after my father in Hutchinson, KS, but go by "Bill." I graduated 1965 from High School in Hutchinson and left to attend Oklahoma Christian College to study Bible, graduating in 1969 with a B.A. in Bible and a minor in Speech.

While still in High School, I met a young lady named Dianne at an area-wide Church skating party and in December of 1966 we were married. Dianne graduated in 1969 for Oklahoma Christian College with a degree in Education. Over the next 20 years we worked with Churches of Christ in Ramson, KS, Childress, TX, Great Bend and Augusta, KS. Dianne and I have been married 52 years and counting and we have four grown children, Cheri, Eric, Michelle and Evan. We now have 14 grandchildren.

In 1988 we decided to plant some roots and bought a small place in the country near Augusta, KS. The Church where we were preaching did not like that idea, and as Dianne had signed a contract to teach, we let the Lord lead us forward and I soon was working for Southwestern Bell. We began attending Church in Wichita and I served the Riverwalk Church of Christ for 23 years as one of their Elders.

After retirement we bought a camper, and in 2013 we became a member of FCRV. We have attend both campventions and Retiree's Campventions. We presently serve as the Kansas Campers Association treasurer and State Chaplain. Dianne has done "Red Hat Dinners" and I have volunteered in other roles. We both are involved in 2019 FCRV Campvention in Hutchinson.

With a love for the Lord, I have enjoyed leading our club Kansa Travelers in a church service, and about 2 years ago assumed the role of Kansas State Chaplain. As the International/National Chaplain, I look forward to sharing and ministering in any and every way I can to each and every one of you. Please feel free to contact me by phone 316 200-1272 or email me at buggelnb@gmail.com.

Thank you to the Board of FCRV for entrusting in me the role of the spiritual side of FCRV.

CHANGE OF CONTACT

INFORMATION

If you have any change of your contact information, please report it to the National Office.

800-245-9755 or

fcrvnat@verizon.net



NEWSLETTER CONTEST DISCONTINUED

By Melvin Coy

The Campvention Newsletter Contest has been discontinued. There has been very little participation the past three years.

We thank everyone who participated and encourage you to continue publishing a State or Provincial newsletter and submitting it to the FCRV website to be included in FCRV news. A suggestion for chapters is to send your chapter news and or contact information to receive your newsletter to your state/provincial newsletter.

We have enjoyed conducting seminar round tables on newsletters at Campvention and perhaps can include more in the future.

Again, thank you for working with me for the past 15 years.



Campvention 2019

Kansas State Fairgrounds

Hutchinson, KS

July 7-12, 2019



PARKING AT FCRV CAMPVENTION 2019

By Vern Failor, Parking chairman

As of April 12 there were plenty of full hooks for you, so if you plan to have full hookups you need to get our registration submitted soon. Campers with tents or campers with pop-up trailers, there still is plenty of space next to a bathhouse with electricity and water.

We need to remind all of you that the first **211** that register will have full hookups. **Not the first that arrive.** If you register in the first **211** and someone travels with you that **did not** register in the first **211**, the **non pre-registered party will not be able to camp with you.** So it is to your advantage to pre-register in advance so you can all camp together.

We don't want anyone to be turned away. We want everyone to come to the Campvention so if you are not able to pre-register but want to attend just show up, and we will have a space for you on grass with water and electricity.



TEEN CENTER

By Karen & Robert Snodgrass, Chairs

Attention all teens – Tie Dye will be done this year. Please bring a white cotton or mostly cotton t-shirt to dye. If you want matching socks, bring a pair of white cotton socks as well.

There will be a photo scavenger hunt. Bring a smart phone or digital camera if possible.

Teen registration will be Sunday evening at the

Teen Center. Bring a small picture for your teen card or we will take a new picture for \$1.00.

If you play a musical instrument in your school band please consider bringing that instrument to Campvention to play in the FCRV International Band.

Many other activities are being planned. Check your program when you arrive for the latest activities list.

DOOR PRIZES NEEDED



Florence Fox, Chair;
Diane Hitchens, Co-Chair



Door prizes are needed to be brought to Campvention for our committee to give away to the lucky ones receiving one. Thanks for your support as we are looking for prizes from each state & province.

SILENT AUCTION



By Joanie Stone, National Wildlife Director

There will be no silent auction because of family obligations I won't be attending.

CAMPVENTION THEMES

Parade theme: BEST ROAD TRIP EVER!

Pet Parade: CONSTRUCTION ZONE AHEAD

Site Decoration: KANSAS IS..... (Use your imagination as to what you think Kansas is!)

MORE THAN JUST A HOUSE

By Mary Borton, Aluminum Collection Chair

When Philadelphia Eagles tight end Fred Hill's 3-year-old daughter, Kim, was being treated for leukemia in 1974, his life changed. He and his wife, Fran, camped out on hospital benches and sat in cramped waiting rooms during Kim's three years of treatment. The Hills watched other parents and families of seriously ill children do the same thing. Many of the families had to travel long distances for their children to receive medical treatment and couldn't afford hotel rooms.

THE HOUSE THAT LOVE BUILT

The Hills knew there had to be a solution. Fred's neighbors started a charity called Eagles Fly for Leukemia. And the owner of the Eagles, not only embraced the charity, but put the full support of the team and his resources behind it. From there the miracle unfolded. The Eagles' general manager talked to Dr. Audrey Evans, head of the pediatric oncology unit at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She had dreamed of a comfortable temporary residence for families of children being treated at her hospital.

The Eagles' owner enlisted the local McDonald's advertising agency, who with the support of McDonald's Regional Manager, launched the St. Patrick's Day Green Milkshake (dubbed the Shamrock Shake) promotion. Funds raised helped buy an old house located near the hospital, which was opened in 1974 as the first Ronald McDonald House.

The network of Houses quickly grew and today there are 342 Ronald McDonald Houses across the world (177 U.S.) as well as 188 Family rooms (113 U.S.). These are located in *more than 64 countries and regions around the world and serve more than 9 million families a year.*

Houses - are temporary homes for families while their child is being treated or is hospitalized at an area hospital/clinic. Payment for staying here is not required but a contribution of \$15-\$20/night is requested if you can afford it. Basic linens, towels, and toiletries are provided as well as home-cooked meals, private bedrooms, and playrooms for children.

Family Rooms — are an area inside medical facility which serve pediatric patients. They are a place for respite, relaxation and privacy within the tense, chaotic, medical setting. These offer kitchen, dining, family and computer space, TV, sleeping rooms for naps/overnight stay, shower suites, and laundry facilities. Ronald McDonald Charities covers the annual operations costs.

Food Pantries - Located in the pediatrics in-patient areas of the hospital, give families with sick children access to healthy food options.

Care Mobile - 52 units provide cost-effective, high-quality medical, dental and health education services. These vehicles literally open the door to health care for thousands of children and families. Each vehicle includes two patient examination rooms, a laboratory, and reception and medical records areas.

Depending on community needs, Ronald McDonald Care Mobile services may include:

- Primary care, well-child visits and developmental screening
- Immunizations
- Diagnostic, preventive and restorative dental care as well as oral hygiene education
- Asthma treatment, self-management education, and pulmonary function testing
- Vision, hearing and lead screening
- School and sports physicals

- Prenatal care for pregnant teens
- Childhood health promotion and injury prevention education
- Nutrition counseling
- Pediatric specialty care, such as oncology, cardiology and otolaryngology
- Mental health assessment and referral
- Blood collection
- Social service resource referral
- Health education
- Care for special needs children

Grants are given to non-profit organizations whose programs improve the quality of life for children and their families (within their area)

Scholarships - High school seniors who want to continue their education (must be from their area)

87 cents of every dollar spent by the global office of RMHC is used to fund RMHC programs in local communities across the globe.

At least one RMHC core program provides care for families being served at 90% of the top children's hospitals worldwide. Not only do they provide a place to stay and help save the families money, they also help reduce stress and improve family coping and resiliency. It is also believed that having their parents right there significantly affects the psychological well-being of the ill child and their recovery.



**IT'S JUST ONE CAN. WHY SHOULD I MESS
WITH RECYCLING THAT?**

Recycling that ONE aluminum can saves enough energy to listen to a full album on an iPod!

Aluminum is the most recyclable of all materials yet Americans throw away more than \$700 million worth of aluminum cans every year, according to The Aluminum Association (<https://www.aluminum.org/industries/production/recycling>).

The aluminum industry spends more than \$800 million a year on recycled cans. Nearly 75% of all aluminum produced in the U.S. is still in use today. It can be recycled directly back into itself over and over again in a true closed loop.

Recycling aluminum IS economical. It more than pays for its own recycling. Demand for aluminum continues to skyrocket and recycling aluminum saves more than 90% of the energy required versus producing new metal.

So save those tabs for Ronald McDonald House and turn in the cans to be recycled!!
(Update: I will be collecting tabs for just a short time Sunday afternoon as well as most of the day on Monday and Tuesday at Campvention. Be sure to check your program book for the various activities when you arrive.)



HELLO TO ALL THE FCRVERS OUT THERE FROM CHAIRMAN SHERRY MCGUIRE!

North Dakota just made it through another snow storm, and we got the light end of the blizzard. This winter certainly makes me want to think about summer camping. Plans are moving ahead on the Parade route, awards and all that goes with one of the fun sides of Campvention. I've got a couple of entrants registered already, so make your plans to join us either as an entrant or a viewer! The parade might be the longest time you have to spend outside, as most of the other activities are planned in air-conditioned comfort. Our PET parade will also take place outside, but we are looking at a shady area for the comfort of our fur babies.



Of course, if you're planning on golfing, you will be outside, but golfers look forward to that, so add your golf clubs to the list of what you want to pack.



Don't forget there will be crafts you can make. Everything will be supplied for your convenience.



Bring your good pair of tennis shoes for our C.A.M.P. program and earn some vendor bucks by walking. For that matter, bring the vendor bucks you've earned over the past year and spend them at the commercial building.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at Hutchinson, Kansas in July for 2019's Campvention.

WILDLIFE GRANTS

By Joanie Stone, National Wildlife Director

The Family Campers & RVers Wildlife Refuge Inc. operates on donations received from individuals, chapters and organizations. These donations may be used as deductions from taxable income. The donations are then used for Wildlife Grants. The program awards grants to many worthwhile wildlife conservation projects in the U.S. and Canada. These grants may be applied for through the National Family Campers & RVers Wildlife Director. **Wildlife Grants must be received by USPS to Joanie Stone, National Wildlife Director , 2601 South 49th Ave., Omaha, NE 68106 by May 30.** The grant application, the organization's proof of 501(c)3 status, and a letter from the organization must be mailed along with any other supporting documents that you feel will help the program get a better understanding about the organization.

FAMILY CAMPERS AND RVERS WILDLIFE REFUGE PROGRAM, INC. APPLICATION FOR GRANT

Print or type: Name of Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Manager/Director _____

Position _____

HELLO FELLOW MUSIC LOVERS



For 55 years the FCRV International Band has performed at Campvention. Those of us who are part of the FCRV International Band enjoy this opportunity to share our talents and entertain the crowd. This year we are in serious need of your talents. Please consider bringing your instrument (beg, barrow or steal one) to Campvention and be a part of the FCRV International Band.

The music we play is fairly simple. We also schedule six short practice sessions which allows those of you who haven't played for a while to get in shape. Middle School and High School players are more than welcome. You will get a FCRV International Band Tuxedo T-shirt, an FCRV International Band Member Badge with year tab and a Pizza Party before we play on Wednesday.

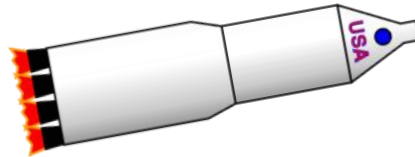
WE NEED YOU!!!! The "Faithful Eight" who have played for the last 5 years need some backup. Music has been selected for this year. If you would like copies of the music in advance (so you can practice) Please e-mail me at, cdweber50@yahoo.com . I will need your mailing address and what instrument you play and I will send you music ahead of time.

Thank you to all of our supporters over the past 16 years. I hope that you will consider helping us out with your talents in Hutchinson, Kansas this year.

Craig Weber, FCRV International Band Director

COSMOSPHERE

By Barb Turner, Publicity Chair



Hutchinson, Kansas, site of Campvention 2019, offers a variety of sites to see while you attend our summer FCRV event. The Cosmosphere is 'a must' to visit. (1100 N Plum St.) The Cosmosphere began in 1962 as a planetarium on the grounds of the Kansas State Fairgrounds, site of 2019 Campvention. Today The Cosmosphere is a 105,000 sq. ft. facility which houses the largest collection of Russian space artifacts outside of Moscow and a collection of U.S. space artifacts, second only to the National Air & Space Museum which is part of the Smithsonian Museums in Washington, D.C. The Cosmosphere is the only Smithsonian affiliate in Kansas.

What can you expect? The Hall of Space Museum, The Justice Planetarium, The Carey Digital Dome Theater, and Dr. Goddard's Lab are the four venues of the museum.

The Hall of Space Museum – "TRAVEL THROUGH TIME AND SPACE - Featuring the largest combined collection of U.S. and Russian space artifacts in the world and telling the comprehensive story of mankind's race to space unlike anywhere else on Earth." V2 technology is highlighted in the German Gallery. The Cold War Gallery emphasizes the struggles between the Soviets & U.S. as space exploration was in its infancy. In the Mollett Early Spaceflight Gallery, "Visitors come face-to-face with American heroes and Soviet secrets. Actual spacecraft, hardware, spacesuits and training gear from the American and Russian programs capture the ingenuity, accomplishment, and tension of the times as two Cold War enemies competed in the race for the Moon." For many of us, we remember this period and will be amazed at what we remember, but also what we didn't know at the time. In The Mollett Early Spaceflight Gallery, the Apollo Gallery, and the Astronaut Experience venues, you will journey through the history of our U.S. space accomplishments. In addition, The Justice Planetarium will 'take you into the heavens'. The Carey Dome Digital Theater will 'make you part of the action.' And, The Goddard Lab will take you back to the 1930's to Dr. Robert Goddard, the father of modern rocketry.

The Cosmophere would be a perfect place to spend an early day at Campvention! Visit <https://cosmo.org/> to plan your day.

All Roads Lead the "Market Place"

Registration Form

"Market Place" opens at 9:30 am for the handicapped & 10 am for everyone else.

Set-up at: 8:30 am

The fee is \$5 per-table for an individual and free for a chapter, including 2 chairs. Maximum tables per booth 2. Send your registration form and fee to Pam Failor at the address below before June 26, 2019.

Make checks payable to: **2019 FCRV Campvention.**

Mark one: _____ Chapter or _____ Individual Project

Chapter Name: _____ State/Province: _____

Individual or Contact Name: _____ # of Tables needed: _____

Phone #: _____ Email : _____

Items for Sale _____

Waiver

We understand that all sales are final and are to support FCRV individuals or chapters and no way shall hold FCRV/NCHA liable for state/provincial taxes or permits that may be required by authorities.

Chapter Name _____ Individual Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Province _____

Postal Code _____ E mail _____ Phone _____

Rules:

1. Nothing sold that is detrimental to FCRV/NCHA policies.
2. All sales are final.
3. Area must be clean upon leaving.
4. Sales may be subject to State/Provincial taxes.
5. No food will be allowed.
6. Tables will be assigned as registered.

If you have questions please e mail Pam at: pfailor18@yahoo.com

Please send this form and fee to: Pam Failor, 5201 SW 27th St, Topeka, KS 66614

Pam Failor Chairman
Lynda Maier Co-Chairman



2019 FCRV TRAVALONG

By Jim & Barb Turner, Travalong Directors

The 2019 FCRV Travalong is set. The Travalong will be after Campvention in Hutchinson, Kansas and will begin in conjunction with the YARs Chapter Campout in Halstead, Kansas. This will give participants time to relax, do laundry, and see some sites in the Halstead area. As has been our practice, the Travalongs have been 'drop in; drop out' which means you can join us anywhere along the route and leave us anywhere along the route. You will make your own reservations. If you have any questions, contact us at turnerf-crv@yahoo.com.

Arrive Saturday July 13 – leave Wednesday July 17
(about 35 miles)

Halstead, KS

Spring Lake RV & Camping Resort

316-835-3443

www.springlakervresort.com

\$24.00 full hookups; \$20.00 Water & electric

Let them know you are with the YARs group

Some things to see and do

Pioneer Adobe House
Dutch Mill
Warkentine House Museum
Centennial Park
Dyck Arboretum Botanical Gardens
Wichita Zoo
Old Cow Town
Museum of World Treasures
Keeper of the Plains
Frank Lloyd Wright's Allen House

Arrive Wednesday July 17 – leave Friday July 19
(about 170 miles)

Dodge City, KS - www.visitdodgecity.org

Blue RV Park **620-255-8916**

full hookups \$30.00

Ask to park near Jim Turner.

Some things to see and do

Boot Hill Museum
Home of Stone

Museum Dodge City Trolley
Museum Gunfighters Wax
Museum Santa Fe Depot

Arrive Friday July 19 – leave Sunday July 21 (about 215 miles)

La Junta, CO - www.visitlajunta.net

La Junta KOA **719-384-9580**

full hookups (50 amp \$44.47) (30 amp \$41.99) Both plus tax.

Ask about discounts.

Ask to park near Jim Turner.

Some things to see and do

Bents Old Fort
Comanche National Grassland
Dinosaur Tracks
Koshare Museum
Otero Museum

Arrive Sunday July 21 – leave Sunday July 28 (about 100 miles)

Colorado Springs, CO - www.vlsitcos.com

Mountaindale Cabins & RV Resort

719-576-0619

full hookups \$56.92 (includes tax) weekly rate-7nights pay for 6.

Ask to park near Jim Turner (site 14).

Some things to see and do

US Air Force Academy
Garden of the Gods
Ghost Town Museum
ProRodeo Hall of Fame & Museum of the American Cowboy
Western Museum of Mining & Industry
Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center
Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad
Manitou Cliff Dwellings



HELP! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Most years in the past we have had the National Photographer or Videographer take movies of all Campvention activities. Our plans are to transfer all former Campvention media to DVDs for eventual sale to our members. Doing this will also preserve our Campventions' history in the Historian Archives. If you are a former Photographer or Videographer or Campvention Chairman and have any of the media we're missing, please forward a copy to us.



Here is a list of the Campventions media we have in our possession:

1965 Bowling Green, KY; 1966 Kanopolis, KS; 1969 Ladsen, SC; 1970 Juniper Hills Campground, MI; 1971 Brantford, Ontario; 1972 Camp Atterbury, IN; 1973 Los Banos, CA; 1984 Bowling Green, KY; 2001 Gillette, WY; 2003 Hutchinson, KS; 2004 Berrien Springs, MI; 2005 Lewisburg, WV; 2007 Pueblo, CO; 2009 Sedalia, MO; 2015 Gillette, WY; 2016 Shawnee, OK; 2017 - Lima, OH. Specifically, we do not have anything prior to 1965, 1967 and 1968, 1975 through 1983 and 1985 through 2000, 2002, 2006, 2008, 2010 through 2014 and 2018.

HERE IS WHERE OUR FCRV MEMBERS CAN HELP US! If you have any Campvention media that you took in years past, we would like to ask you to send us a copy.



If you have older film (16, 35, or 8 mm) and would like to send us a copy, perhaps it would be best to transfer the film to a DVD, then send that to us, which would be less expensive for you to do. If you wish your media returned, please let us know, and we will be happy to do that. Please mark your media with your name, phone number, email address and home address for returning to you. Should we decide to use your media, we will need you to send us permission by written letter as an attachment to an email.

The DVDs will have audio with an introduction and a section for each campvention that will give the year, location and attendance of the year, with something specific about that particular campvention. This will be an ongoing project for at least the next 1-2 years. Once we have all the media, planning and development of the media onto DVDs with a digital

company, this project will commence and hopefully will not take more than 6 months more to complete.

Your response to our plea for assistance would be appreciated **by September 30, 2019**. Our email, phone and address are below if you wish to contact us with questions.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can give us on this special project of the Historian of NCHA/FCRV.

Respectfully submitted,
Don and Shirley MacKenzie
National Historian
540-967-9654
Email - onecedarjunction@gmail.com
527 Firehouse Drive
Louisa, VA 23093



FIRE ACADEMY GRADUATE



Rodney O'neal, son of Rhonda and Michael O'neal, of Missouri recently graduated from the Charles County Fire Academy. Congratulations, Rodney!

90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Wilma Plummer will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 26th. The family will be gathering to celebrate on May 4th. If you would like to send Wilma birthday wishes, please send them to: Wilma Plummer, 4101 Honeybrook Ave., Dayton OH 45415 or lshennie@aol.com

FCRV Activities

INDIANA RV SHOW



Membership Director

Christopher Weiss

Youth Director

Misty Stuckswisch



Miss Indiana

Macey

Stuckswisch

NORTH CAROLINA TRAVELING TARHEELS



The North Carolina Traveling Tarheels retiree club held their Spring Campout at Carroll Woods RV Park near Tarboro City, NC, April 9-12, 2019. A breakfast of waffles and sausage was served on Wednesday. The waffle cooks were Bill Stirewalt, son Keith and daughter Judy. Bill Ramlow prepared the sausage. Eating is our favorite activity. First time Bill's children had attended a NC State Retiree campout

COME CAMP WITH US.

YARS SPRING RIVER CAMPOUT



***Bill & Mollie
relaxing***

Twice a year, after the Retiree Rally and the Campvention, the YARS (Young thinking, Active, Retirees) camp together to relax, unwind, and socialize. 25 units attended this spring's rally which was on the banks of the Mississippi River in Vidalia, Louisiana, just across the bridge from Natchez, MS. After the trek from Houma on Monday, root beer floats and finger foods were an early treat.

Tuesday evening was pizza and salad night provided by the chapter followed by the business meeting, led by President, Tommy Garner. Throughout the week many took a tram or bus tour through the stately Antebellum homes of Natchez which were spared during the Civil War. Some of the homes were open to the public. Of course they 'sniffed out' some good restaurants too. The golfers in the group got a few rounds in also.



***Antebellum home
in Natches***

On Wednesday morning those who wanted YARS shirts made their own in a tie-dyeing session. Wednesday evening was for pot luck and cooking your own meat over the campfire with the fire lasting well into the evening.



The River View Campground provided a beautiful setting on the banks of the river where folks could watch the giant strings of barges and various other boats navigate slowly by with the bridge joining two states in the background.

Campfire cooking

Thursday morning, Leon Ishmael cooked pancakes and others brought sausage and other goodies to accompany them. That evening a number of campers sampled some southern bbq at Moos Rib Barn in Natchez. It was the last night for cards and games in

the clubhouse and the last night for the campout, although a few stayed on an extra day or two. Hosts for the campout were Ramlowes, Turners, and Johnstons.

The next YARS campout will be after Campvention in July at Spring Lake RV & Camping Resort in Halstead, Kansas. Contact Barb Turner for information – turnerfcrv@gmail.com

PA STATE DIRECTOR DONATES FOR FCRV



Patricia 'Patty' Campbell, PA. State Director, has been collecting scrap metals for the past two years. Her latest batch netted \$638 which she donated to Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia in the name of PA. State Association of Family Campers & RVers. Her garage is always ready for more .

NORTHEAST REGION/PENN CAMP WEEKEND IN THE ISLANDS



The Pennsylvania State Association in combination with the Northeast Region of FCRV is planning A Weekend in the Islands at the Lycoming County Fairgrounds in Hughesville, PA August 1-4, 2019. There will be something for everyone from the young to the young at hearts.

The committees have been working hard to make this a fun packed weekend for everyone. Activities planned are hospitalities hosted by Connecticut and Maryland, entertainment, games for youth and adults, a movie night sponsored by the Hughesville Library, a free breakfast one morning, a brown bag auction, a brown bag bingo (where those that intend to play bring at least 2 to 3 items in a brown bag worth at least \$1.00 each), a new twist called Surprise Ball, pot luck supper on Saturday night for everyone, with

Pennsylvania providing the meat and campers to bring side dishes and desserts.

This campout is not just for FCRV members. We are opening it up to any campers. So talk to your non-FCRV friends and have them come along with you. As they say, COME CAMP WITH US.

For more information or an application, please contact Patty Campbell

email tacmamma@gmail.com or Jeanie Kelly rkelly4911@aol.com.



D.A.S.A.T.

HOME SAFETY INSPECTIONS

By Joe Boswell, National DASAT Dir.

Spring is fast approaching and we all are looking forward to seeing the snow disappear, and warmth of spring to return once again. The flowers will slowly begin to show their beauty and we will be thinking about hitting the road, but before this occurs, some additional preparation needs to take place to secure our own safety within our homes. Many of the things to discuss here may require a professional especially if you are uncertain how to effectively handle the preparations by yourself.

Spring-cleaning brings about several items of important that may need some attention. For example, you should check exhaust vent and shutter openings, and burner of your heating system to make sure it is clean and will function properly. If by chance, you have an attic fan make sure it is clear of debris so that you can use it efficiently for the summer. Check your outside water valves making sure they will not leak and are ready to assist with the proper watering of your outdoor



lawn and garden needs. Prepare and check all of your gutter and downspouts, paint or repair as needed. If you have, a water softener with salts now is the time to clean this out and refresh its contents. Test the operations of your hot water heater making it is working correctly and does not have any leaks. Check the wood interior and exterior of your home for signs of termites. Hire a terminate company if nec-



essary to address this situation. Now is a good time to inspect windows and doors for gaps, cracks or other types of winter damage. Spring is a good time to make necessary repairs, add sealants and insulation such as calking or other weather stripping for the upcoming winter months. This is also good time to re-



place any broken glass in the doors or windows. Did you discover a few leaks during the winter months, now is a good time to have the roof inspected and or repairs made as necessary. This is a good time to have someone go up on the roof of your home and make repairs to the shingles, flashings, chimney and the gutter or downspouts. While completing this task, make sure vents and louvers are free to circulate air adequately. Complete a foundation check too, to make sure you do not have any cracks or signs of major foundation settling. All of his could lead to major costly repair. If you have a basement, check for leaks, no basement, check the crawl space to make sure it is dry and does not have any standing water. If so, you may need to have a sump pump installed preventing such an occurrence. Spring is a good time to give you home an overall general inspection. Now is the time to make repairs that you were unable to complete during the colder winter months. Spring-cleaning includes the exterior and interior of your home and allows you to see things that you may have missed.

Winter preparations take on a different perspective. It is the time to insulate all your water pipes to prevent them from freezing. You may want to add additional insulation to the attic and basement as needed to keep your heating bill costs down. Before you start turning on your heater make sure a profession has inspected it so that it is working efficiently and effectively. You do not want carbon monoxide building up in your home at any time. If by chance you need to use an electric heater, make sure the filters have been clean before using them. Seal around any window unit air conditioners and check to make sure you outside unit is properly prepared for the winter ahead. If by chance, you have an attic fan you may find it beneficial to seal it up for the winter. Remember to check the gas flame on your gas furnace; it should be blue no yellow. How about the fireplace, inspect this and make sure it is safe to operate throughout the winter. This holds true also for wood burning stoves-make sure the flues are clear of any debris. This is the time to close off outside water valves and water lines. Dis-



connect your sprinkler system and drain it thoroughly especially if your live in a climate that potential for temperatures below freezing for extended periods of time. Remember to check all outdoor vent whereby heat exhaust escapes from your home-make sure these are clear of any leaves. This is a good time to clean out and replenish any water filtration systems in your home. Most importantly remember to check the smoke alarms and replace them if they are over 10 years of age. Are you on a septic system, as part of your winterization preparation, this too may need attention especially if it has not been address over a period of several years. For older homes, it is good idea to have your heating systems, or furnace checked by a professional to make sure this meets the current codes for your area and is ready for safe operations throughout the winter months.



All of these suggestions no matter where you happen to live should be taken under advisement. An ounce of prevention and a simple inspection along with a bit of simple maintenance will save you time and money in the future.

Source: www.checkhomesafety.com

RVIA REPORTS AFTERMARKET BUYERS PREFER STORES

Courtesy of RV Business

Research conducted by the RV Industry Association (RVIA) of RV aftermarket consumers shows that buyers prefer to purchase RV parts and accessories in stores with 63% purchasing products in a retail location, according to the Aftermarket Parts and Accessories Customer Survey conducted in late 2018.

When asked where they purchased RV aftermarket parts and accessories, respondents indicated that one-in-five purchases (21%) were made where they purchase the RV, while 18 percent of purchases were made at a retail chain; 16% at a local parts store; and 8 percent at another RV dealer. The largest non-store option was Amazon at 17%.

These answers did vary slightly when segmented by age. For those above 45 years old, 22 percent purchased parts at a retail chain; 19 percent at a local parts store; 18% at the dealer where they bought the

RV; 14% through Amazon; and 10 percent at another RV dealer. Among younger buyers age 45 and below, 23% purchased parts where they bought the RV; 19 percent through Amazon; 14% at a retail chain; 13% at a local parts store; and 7 percent at another RV dealer.

“The key takeaway here is that RV consumers of all ages prefer to shop and buy their aftermarket parts and accessories in a store, with a sizeable segment preferring to shop where they purchased the RV,” said Senior Director of Research Bill Baker. “One of the key benefits of in-store shopping is being able to see and touch the product, as well as having expert personnel on hand to provide product knowledge and technical assistance. Those are key benefits.”

These findings come from the Aftermarket Parts and Accessories Customer Survey conducted in 2018 by the RV Industry Association. Cairn Consulting directed the research, questioning 800 RVers who had traveled in an RV within the past year and were heavily involved in decision-making about where to purchase aftermarket parts and accessories.

Members interested in reviewing the findings of this research, click [here](#).



5 SIMPLE WAYS TO SAVE WATER WHILE CAMPING

By Christina Nellemann

Unless your RV is parked in a campground or resort and hooked up to endless gallons of water (and a sewer hookup), this necessity of life is rather finite.

Going on a [boondocking](#) or dry camping trip will quickly open your eyes as to how much water you can use. Most RV fresh water tanks range from 35 to 100 gallons.

However, according to the [U.S. Department of the Interior](#), the average American uses between 80 and 100 gallons of water per day. That would wipe out an RV tank in a few hours.

If you are new to RV camping, it might take some time and some gadgets (such as [water-saving](#)

[showerheads](#)) to figure out how to save water while camping. Therefore, go the easy, inexpensive route with these tips.

1. Have multiple spray bottles



An [inexpensive spray bottle](#) goes a long way when it comes to camping. It can be used to wash dishes, wash hair and bodies, and even pets.

Fill up one or several spray bottles with house or campground water before taking off and keep them in the kitchen and bathroom for a quick clean of your body in lieu of a shower. Use a spray bottle with water and a few drops of [Dr. Bronner's environmentally friendly liquid soap](#) to do an initial or full wash of dishes.

2. Wash with less, rinse with more

Speaking of dishes, they can really add up. However, very little water is actually needed to wash dishes. When [washing dishes](#), use just a few cups of water to do the washing.

You really only need to wet a dishcloth or sponge, add a little soap, and use it to scrub the dishes. The majority of the water should be used to rinse the dishes off.



To save even more water and gray tank space when washing dishes, use a dishpan to catch the water and use it to flush the toilet.

3. Catch and use the excess



If you do take a shower, use a bucket or a drink pitcher to catch the initial cold water during your shower. Use this water to heat up and do dishes or to make food.

Most RVers know to take a [“navy shower”](#) to not only save water but to save the few gallons of hot water provided by an RV water heater. A navy shower uses about [95 percent](#) less water than a typical home shower.

During a navy shower, turn on the water to get wet and then turn it off. Soap and shampoo like normal and then turn the water on again to rinse. You should only need to turn the water on two to three times for several minutes to get a good shower.

4. Pack baby wipes



Baby wipes should always be part of an RV kit. They are useful for cleaning up camp messes and even for babies.

Use a few for washing under your armpits and private areas and some for hands and feet. A washcloth with a little soap and water will do the same job.

5. Let it mellow and don't flush TP

When flushing down solid waste and toilet paper, RV toilets can use about a gallon of water to remove all the evidence. If you are fine with letting #1 sit around for a while, let the yellow mellow and leave it in the bowl. In addition, don't put TP in the toilet, but instead throw it into a wastebasket in the bathroom.

To keep any odors away, use a few sprays or drops of toilet neutralizer such as Just a Drop. If you do decide to leave any liquid waste in the bowl, be sure to have some water in there to cover up the opening and seal out any sewer gas that could leak up from the black tank.



CAMPER VAN OFFERS 2 SLEEPING PODS, COZY INTERIOR

While most DIY van conversions end up as just one project, Oxford-based Jack Richens and Lucy Hedges took their passion for transforming camper vans into contemporary homes on wheels and turned it into a career.

Inhabitat reposted that their company, This Moving House, has just finished its sixth project, the Jubel Explorer. The ultra-compact space has been completely transformed into a chic adventuring vehicle, complete with two innovative sleeping nooks.

Constructed on a long wheel base Mercedes Benz



Sprinter, the camper van's revamped interior is surprisingly modern and space-efficient. At the front of the van, the driving area has two chairs that swivel around to face a small table with a three-person bench, creating enough space for dining or

working.

Next to the quaint cooking area is a day bed tucked into the very end of the camper van. Beside this bed, a simple staircase leads up to the company's now-signature pod bunks. Accessed by porthole-style windows, the sleeping pods come complete with fixed full-sized mattress and reading lights as well as the possibility for tailored furnishings, such as a custom mattress and privacy curtains.



To keep the space clutter-free, the camper van is outfitted with plenty of storage. The stairs to the sleeping pods lift up to reveal built-in nooks, and the main bed has pull-out drawers underneath. For additional storage, there is an extra-large drawer and room for gear in the back of

the van.

The Jubel Explorer was also made to be semi-off-grid with a diesel heater that keeps the interior space warm and cozy. Power comes from a 110AH and 12V electrical system, and the van also comes with a 21-gallon water tank.

For the full story click [here](https://www.rvbusiness.com/blog/camper-van-offers-2-sleeping-pods-cozy-interior.html).

<https://www.rvbusiness.com/blog/camper-van-offers-2-sleeping-pods-cozy-interior.html>



**Come and Join in with other FCRV members this winter!
2019 Summer and Winter Special.**



April through September Daily rate \$28.50. Includes Elect.

Weekly rate \$133.00 includes Elect. Monthly rate 189.00 plus Elect.

2019 –2020 Winter Special. First Month 285.00, Second Month \$189.00

Get Third Month at \$185.00. Bonus all monthly rates are plus elect.

This is an additional 2-5 % off advertised special rates. FCRV members must show special pricing (this ad) offer at check- in. Phone 956-585-7630.

Web: rvresorts.com/blue-bonnet.html

Farewells

Austin Duncan, 84, 3-4-19, Summit, Missouri, worked with Kansas group.

Neva Joyce Heisman, 88, 3-8-19, Holton, Kansas, Mustangs Chapter

Clara Lou Roberts, 82, Marion, Kansas, Marionettes, Newton Nomads Chapters.

Robert 'Bob' Leighton, 82, 3-29-19, Newark, Ohio, Licking Free Loaders Chapter, longtime member.

Lois Leighton, 78, 3-30-19, Newark Ohio, Licking Free Loaders Chapter, longtime member.

Dale McClaskey, 90, Salina, Kansas, 4-3-19, Started many chapters in KS in the 1970's.

Timothy Joe Sipple, 67, 4-10-19, Topeka, KS & Oregon, Topeka District 1 Chapter.

Laura Dishong, 91, 4-18-19, Indiana, PA. Former member of Moraine Blazing Stars and PA Retirees. Known for her quilting. Obituary at www.bowserminich.com)



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3 – 5, 2019 – Kansas Campers Association Spring Campout

Winfield Fairgrounds. Everyone is welcome to come and share. Call 316-776-2779 for information.

MAY 3-9, 2019 - Blue Water Mini Mixer

Port Huron TWP Park, Port Huron, MI, Saturday pot luck w/ chicken provided. Call park for reservations after April 15 (810-982-6765) See registration blank on website www.fcrv.org.

May 6 – 10, 2019 – Kansas Sunchasers Retirees Campout.

If you came for the State at the Fairgrounds in Winfield, just stay put for the retirees. Or come for just the retirees. Call 620-960-2322 for the details. Come relax.

May 24 – 27, 2019 – NYSA State Campout

Herkimer County Fairgrounds, 133 Cemetery Street, Frankfort, NY 13340 [Take Exit 30 on the NYS Thruway]. The Camping Fee will be covered by NYSA. There will be a \$7.50 activity fee per person to pay for the cost of food and supplies. Please send payment and completed registration form payable to: NYSA / NCHA, c/o LINDA STIEGLER, 92 SANDRA DRIVE, CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14225
Ph: (716) 982-5518 or email: stiegl2@gmail.com

May 24 - 27 Wisconsin Get Acquainted Campout

Walworth County Fairgrounds, Elkhorn, WI

June 13-14-15, 2019 - South East Regional Campout

KOA at Lumberton, North Carolina, 1-800-562-0845 1-910-887-6185. Reservation Listed "FCRV" Call as early as possible. Lumberton KOA located just off I-95 Exit 17 on the west side of highway. Registration on the FCRV website.

June 27-30, 2019 – Southwest Regional Campout

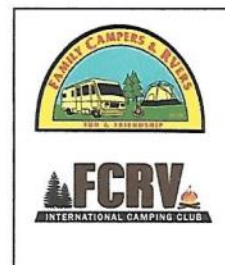
The 2019 Region 2 Campout will be at the Texarkana RV Park, 5000 US Hwy 59, Texarkana, Texas 75501. Phone: 906-206-1364. Deadline to pre-register: June 1, 2019. Registration Fee: \$15.00 per rig. Camping fee: \$25/NIGHT +TAX PAY AT GATE. It is on the way to Kansas for National so come join us and leave there for National Rally in Hutchinson Kansas. We will be going as a group and spend a few days traveling together on the way. Hope you can join us. Registration form on the FCRV website.

SEPT 27-29, 2019 - Blue Water Mixer,

Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds, Imlay City, MI, donrocky64@hotmail.com. See Registration Form on website www.fcrv.org.



59th INTERNATIONAL CAMPVENTION
FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers
 Hosted by the Heartland Region # 2
"ALL ROADS LEAD TO KANSAS"
 Kansas State Fairgrounds, 2000 North Poplar St.
 Hutchinson, KS 67502
Campvention Days: July 8 – 12, 2019 fees covers
 July 7 – 12 (6 nights)



Early Bird Days: July 5 & 6, 2019 @ \$25 / night (pay @ registration – cash/check)

Registrations are needed by: June 1, 2019

There will be room for you if you decide to come at the last minute.

Just bring this registration with you. We want everyone to come see us!!!

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Spouse/Guest:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **ST/PRV:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone #: _____ **e-mail:** _____

Is this your first Campvention? Yes ___ No ___ Send my confirmation letter in PDF: Yes ___ No ___

Number of people in your unit:

Of Adults: ___ Teens: ___ Youth 9 – 12 ___ Youth 5 – 8 ___ Young Adults ___ Total number of people in Unit: ___

Please list the names and ages of all Teens and Youth:

Name	Age	Name	Age

CAMPVENTION PARKING:

The gates will be open all days from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The first 211 registrations will be parked in the full hook up sites. All others will be parked with water & electric. If you are not registered prior to arrival, you will be in a water & electric site. The full hook up area has paved streets and gravel parking sites. The water & electric sites are in grass areas. Tent sites are available in grass with shade and close to the shower house.

Special Needs Information:

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: ___ There will be no special needs sites available at the gate.

REGISTRATION:

Everyone must complete a registration form including second families and camp passes. Submit payment with the registration form. All funds should be US currency of checks or money orders. **NO CREDIT CARDS.**

	<u>Registration</u>	<u>At Gate</u>
One Family in the Unit	\$300.00	\$310.00
Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay)	\$150.00	\$160.00
Week Drive-in Pass (July 7 – 12)	\$175.00	\$185.00
Walk-in Camp Pass (per day)	\$35.00 Per Day	Same
Motor Home ___ 5 th Wheel ___ Travel Trailer ___ Pop-Up ___ Want in shade trees ___		

THINGS TO SEE AND DO AROUND HUTCHINSON:

Cosmosphere (Smithsonian-affiliated Space Museum), Strataca (a salt mine museum), Yoder (a Amish community), Hutchinson Zoo, Dillon Nature Center, Hedrick Exotic Animal Farm, Soldiers & Sailors Memorial, Reno County Museum, Kansas Kids Museum, Reno County Veterans Memorial, Salt Discovery Site & Memorial Marker,

Make checks payable to: 2019 FCRV Campvention

Mail to: Keith Koontz
 2224 Woodland St
 Wichita, KS 67204-5938

Refund policy: If you are unable to attend, all except \$ 25 will be refunded

Contact them at: 316-655-2970 or k.koontz@sbcglobal.net

We would like to volunteer for: _____



**49TH FCRV INTERNATIONAL
RETIREE RALLY
NATIONAL PEANUT FAIRGROUNDS
DOTHAN, ALABAMA
EARLY DAYS: MARCH 20th – 23rd
RALLY DAYS: MARCH 24th – 30th**



LAST NAME: _____ FIRST: _____ SPOUSE/OTHER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST/PROVINCE: _____ ZIP/POSTAL: _____

OTHER'S ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT: _____ CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP/POSTAL: _____

PHONE #: _____ OTHER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ CONFIRMATION SENT: pdf: _____ word: _____ mailed _____

CONFIRMATION LETTERS WILL BE SENT OUT BY EMAIL IN JANUARY. IF YOU WISH IT SENT BY MAIL TO A DIFFERENT ADDRESS THAN THE ONE ABOVE, PLEASE SUPPLY THE ADDRESS BELOW:

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ST/PROVINCE: _____ ZIP: _____

WHICH ARE YOU REGISTERING FOR? CAMPING: _____ CAMP PASS: _____ IS THIS YOUR FIRST RETIREE RALLY? YES: _____ NO: _____

ARE YOU A VETERAN: YES: _____ NO: _____ NUMBER OF VETERANS IN YOUR UNIT? _____

SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING: TO BE PARKED IN SPECIAL NEEDS (HANDICAPPED) AREA, YOU MUST HAVE ON FILE WITH THE REGISTRAR AN UP-TO DATE: DOCTOR'S CERTIFICATE, STATE LICENSE REGISTRATION INCLUDING HANDICAP PLATE, OR HANDICAP PLACARD. THIS AREA IS RESERVED FOR WHEELCHAIRS, WALKERS, OR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY PROBLEMS: _____

GUESTS ARE WELCOME: Guests or Non-FCRV members are welcome. They can be in your unit or their own. Have them complete a registration form, indicate they are your guests and send the correct amount. We strongly suggest they enter the camping area at the same time you do. We are guests or NON-FCRV members of: _____

RALLY FEES:

EARLY BIRD DAYS: (MARCH 20 - 23) FEE \$30 PER NIGHT WITH WATER AND ELECTRIC AND WILL BE COLLECT AT DOTHAN.

RALLY FEE- MARCH 24 - 30 AND LEAVE ON MONDAY: INCLUDES: 6 nights of camping with water and electric, Ice Cream Social, two evening meals, entertainment and all activities connected with the Rally.

	PRE-REGISTRATION (PAID IN ADVANCE FULL)	AT THE GATE:
Two people in a unit:	\$250	\$275
Single person in unit:	\$220	\$245
Camp Pass or 3 rd person in unit:	\$100	

REFUND POLICY: REFUNDS MUST BE REQUESTED IN WRITING BY MAIL, EMAIL OR PHONE CALL TO THE REGISTRAR. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE PAID UNTIL AFTER THE RALLY. Refunds requested before March 15, 2020, will receive the following: two people in a unit: \$225, one person in a unit will receive \$195. Camp Pass will receive no refunds.

Make checks or money order (US Currency) payable to: FCRV/NCHA RETIREE RALLY 2020. NO CREDIT CARDS. Mail to Bill and Penny Ramlow, 8371 Night Owl DR, Riverview, FL. 33569. .You can contact them at: 305-822-6589 or 813-545-6083 or email them at pramlow@aol.com

I would like to volunteer for: _____